

The State Electricity Boards are responsible for fixing up the tariffs to different consumers (under Section 49) of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 and the Boards are fixing up the tariffs taking into consideration the nature of supply and the purpose of utilisation. The question of quicker collection of bills, was discussed in the Conference of the Chairmen, State Electricity Boards when a number of concrete suggestions to secure the objectives were made. These suggestions have been communicated to the various State Electricity Boards for consideration and implementation. Some of the Electricity Boards have reported that they are implementing these suggestions, by and large.

Guide lines for the rationing of the available power in situations of shortage have been evolved and communicated to the State Governments/State Electricity Boards for implementation with due regard to local circumstances and priorities.

Concern regarding attack on Chief Justice of India

*661 SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are viewing with great concern the recent bid of assassination on the Chief Justice of India;

(b) if so, whether it is a second occasion of an attack on a high ranking person since the assassination of the late Railway Minister in Bihar;

(c) whether there is some conspiracy that such explosions and assassination bids will create tension and disorder in the country;

(d) if so, whether it has been found that some foreign countries are very active in helping to create such situation; and

(e) whether any concrete steps are being considered with the help and support of the State Governments to check such incidents; and if so, the broad outlines thereof?

3-8 L.S.S./75

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) The investigations into the cases registered in connection with the Samastipur bomb explosion and the throwing of hand-grenades at the Chief Justice of India are in progress. The Government are awaiting the results of investigations.

(e) The Government keep in touch with the State Governments who are primarily responsible for law and order for maintaining necessary vigilance.

Annual Plan for Karnataka for 1975-76

*662. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual plan of Karnataka State for the year 1975-76 has been approved;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) what is the outlay by the Centre and the State, respectively, thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 139 crores for the Karnataka Annual Plan 1975-76. This Plan is to be financed from Central assistance of Rs. 35.46 crores and State's own resources of Rs. 103.54 crores. Approval has been conveyed on 3rd April 1975.

Production in Neyveli Lignite Project

*663. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBALAH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to allot substantial amount to Neyveli Lignite Project to boost up its production;

(b) the percentage of its production related to its rated capacity;

(c) the expected increase in the rated capacity and production after utilisation of the amount allotted; and

(d) whether this project is incurring heavy losses and if so, the reasons for allotting more funds?